

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated June 12, 2003, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on September 12, 2003. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Paragraph [000.1] has been added to the specification before paragraph [0001] to include a reference to the priority application, United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/211,711, which was filed June 15, 2000. Applicants submit that the entire delay in amending the specification to reflect the priority claim was unintentional.

Claims 1-57 are pending in this application and are shown above. Claims 29-52 stand withdrawn by the Examiner. Claims 1-28 and 53 are rejected, and claims 54-57 are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the rejected claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Restriction to one of the following groups is required under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

I. Claims 1-28 and 53-57, drawn to a method of adjusting an electrochemical bath, classified in class 205, subclass 81.

II. Claims 29-52, drawn to a method of electrochemical deposition, classified in class 205, subclass 291+.

Applicants elect Group I. Applicants have amended claim 29 to specify that the provided electroplating bath comprises an additive material that consists of one or more constituents identified as being generated from an electrochemical deposition process. Applicants submit that the changes made herein do not introduce new matter. Applicants submit that claim 1 and amended claim 29 are related as subcombination and combination. As the combination of claim 29 requires all of the elements of the subcombination of claim 1, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 29 should not be restricted. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

Applicants also traverse restriction of claims 35 and 46 on grounds that the claims are drawn to the elected invention of adjusting an electrochemical bath. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the restriction requirement.

The title of the invention is objected to. Applicants have amended the title to "Method of Conditioning Electrochemical Baths in Plating Technology" as suggested by the Examiner. Applicants submit that the changes made herein do not introduce new matter.

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-15, 17-27, and 53 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Reid* (U.S. Patent 6,458,262 B1). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The priority date for the instant application is June 15, 2000, as the instant application claims priority to United States Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/211,711, which was filed June 15, 2000. *Reid* was filed on March 9, 2001. As *Reid* is not prior art, *Reid* cannot be used to reject the claims in the instant application. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-8, 10-15, 17-27, and 53.

Claims 6, 9, 16, and 28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Reid*, as applied to claims 2, 7, 14, and 22 above, and further in view of *Hodgens, II* (U.S. Patent 5,017,410). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

The rejection of claims 6, 9, 16, and 28 relies on *Reid*, which is not prior art. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 6, 9, 16, and 28.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed.

Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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